



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

George Washington Birthplace National Monument
1732 Popes Creek Road
Washington's Birthplace, VA 22443

804 224-1732 telephone
804 224-2142 facsimile

George Washington Birthplace - News Release

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Contact(s): Park Ranger Gloria Updyke
Phone number: 804 224-1732x246
Email: gloria_updyke@nps.gov
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George Washington Birthplace Celebrates the Washington Family Christmas

Join George Washington Birthplace National Monument on Sunday, December 29, 2008 in celebrating the Washington Family Christmas. The event will run from 10:00 am – 7:00 pm.

Colonial Virginians vigorously celebrated Christmas for 12 days, stretching from Christmas Eve and New Year's Day to Twelfth Night. The holiday season was widely celebrated in Virginia, unlike its northern neighbor colonies or New England.



Memorial House illuminated with candle lanterns

Festivities traditionally included extravagant feasting, drinking, games, fireworks, dancing, and music. Hospitality included open houses, and decorations included candlelit windows and door wreaths and garlands.

This year, the Birthplaces' event is on the Fifth Day of Christmas.

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The event will feature a variety of living history demonstrations, with volunteers and staff in period clothing recreating the crafts of the time: cooking, blacksmithing, spinning and weaving, music and more. The event will also feature a candlelight illumination of the historic area.



Living history demonstrations by park volunteers

Admission is always free at George Washington Birthplace.

George Washington Birthplace National Monument is located on Route 204, 2 miles off of Route 3, 38 miles east of Fredericksburg, VA and 11 miles west of Montross, VA. Additional information about George Washington Birthplace National Monument is available by phone at (804) 224-1732, on the web at www.nps.gov/gewa or on Facebook or Twitter.

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